EDUCATION DEPARTMENT[281]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)"b."

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 256.7(5), the State Board of Education hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 17, "Open Enrollment," Iowa Administrative Code.

These proposed amendments are necessary to align Chapter 17 with legislative changes made in 2016 Iowa Acts, chapter 1036 (House File 2336). Two internal cross references and outdated terminology for students requiring special education are also corrected.

An agencywide waiver provision is provided in 281—Chapter 4.

Interested persons may submit comments orally or in writing by May 16, 2017, at 4:30 p.m. Comments on the proposed amendments should be directed to Phil Wise, Iowa Department of Education, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0146; telephone (515)281-4835; e-mail phil.wise@iowa.gov; or fax (515)242-5988.

A public hearing will be held on May 16, 2017, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon in the State Board Room, Second Floor, Grimes State Office Building, East 14th Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, at which time persons may present their views either orally or in writing.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department and advise of specific needs by calling (515)281-5295.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code section 282.18(7).

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 17.10(1) as follows:

17.10(1) Full-time pupils. Unless otherwise agreed to in the mediation under paragraph 17.4(6) "b," for full-time pupils, the resident district shall pay each year to the receiving district an amount equal to the sum of the state cost per pupil for the previous year; plus any moneys received for the pupil as a result of non-English speaking weighting provided by Iowa Code section 280.4 and; plus either the teacher leadership supplemental supplement state cost per pupil for the previous year as provided in Iowa Code section 257.9 257.9(11) or the teacher leadership supplement foundation aid allocation for fiscal year 2017 as provided in Iowa Code section 284.13(1) "e," whichever the district received, if both the district of residence and the receiving district received either of the supplements. If the pupil participating in open enrollment is also an eligible pupil under Iowa Code section 261E.6 (postsecondary enrollment options program), the receiving district shall pay the tuition reimbursement amount to an eligible postsecondary institution as provided in Iowa Code section 261E.7.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 17.10(5) as follows:

17.10(5) Method of payment. These moneys shall be paid to the receiving district on a quarterly basis by the first resident district according to the timeline in Iowa Code section 282.20(3) (on or before February 15 and July 15 of each year). Payments shall be made to the receiving district in a timely manner. The district cost per pupil for nonspecial education students shall be the cost calculated each year for the school year preceding the school year for which the open enrollment takes place. Costs for special education students shall be as outlined in rule 281—17.11(282).

281—17.11(282) Special education students. If a parent/guardian requests open enrollment for a pupil requiring special education, as provided by Iowa Code chapter 256B, this request shall receive consideration under the following conditions. The request shall be granted only if the receiving district is able to provide within that district the appropriate special education program for that student in accordance with Iowa rules of special education, 281—41.84(256B,273,34CFR300) 281—Chapter 41. This determination shall be made by the receiving district in consultation with the resident district and the appropriate area education agency(ies) before approval of the application. In a situation where the appropriateness of the program is in question, the pupil shall remain enrolled in the program of the resident district until a final determination is made. If the appropriateness of the special education program in the resident district is questioned by the parent, then the parent should may request a due process hearing as provided by 281—41.113(1) 281—41.507(256B,34CFR300) or a mediation conference as provided by 281-41.506(256B,34CFR300). If the appropriateness of the special education program in the receiving district is at issue, the final determination of the appropriateness of a special education instructional program shall be the responsibility of the director of special education of the area education agency in which the receiving district is located, based upon the decision of a diagnostic-education the child's individualized education program team, from the receiving district which shall include a representative from the resident district that has the authority to commit district resources, and which decision is subject to the parent's procedural safeguards.

District transportation requirements, parent/guardian responsibilities and, where applicable, financial assistance for an open enrollment special education pupil shall be as provided by rule 281—17.9(282).

The district of residence shall pay to the receiving district on a quarterly basis the schedule set forth in subrule 17.10(5) the actual costs incurred by the receiving district in providing the appropriate special education program. These costs shall be based on the current year expenditures with needed adjustments made in the fourth quarter final payment. The responsibility for ensuring that an appropriate program is maintained for an open enrollment special education pupil shall rest with the resident district. The receiving district and the receiving area education agency director shall provide, at least on an annual basis, evaluation reports and information to the resident district on each special education open enrollment pupil. The receiving district shall provide notice to the resident district of all staffings scheduled for each open enrollment pupil. For an open enrolled special education pupil where the receiving district is located in an area education agency other than the area education agency within which the resident district is located, the resident district and the receiving district are required to forward a copy of any approved open enrollment request to the director of special education of their respective area education agencies. Any moneys received by the area education agency of the resident district for an approved open enrollment special education pupil shall be forwarded to the receiving district's area education agency.